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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
CONSEQUENCES OF THE IRAQI OCCUPATION
OF AND AGGRESSION AGAINST KUWAIT
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY -
PREVENTION OF THE VIOLENT
DISINTEGRATION OF STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 12 February 1998 from the Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

As Chairman of the group of Central American countries, including the Dominican Republic, I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of the joint communiqué issued by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic, in San José on 10 February 1998 relating to the threats to international peace and security arising out of the position of the Government of Iraq of not permitting the team of inspectors from the United Nations Special Commission to inspect all the sites and areas required for the exercise of its mandate.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under the items entitled "Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait" and "Maintenance of international security - prevention of the violent disintegration of States", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ricardo G. CASTANEDA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Joint communiqué

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic, meeting on the occasion of the Fourteenth Ministerial Conference on Political Dialogue and Economic Cooperation between the European Union and the Member States of the Central American Integration System, held in San José on 10 February 1998, have decided to issue the following joint communiqué:

1. The Central American countries and the Dominican Republic share the concern of the international community at the deterioration of the situation in Iraq, which poses a serious threat to international peace and security.

2. The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Central America and the Dominican Republic, in noting this problem, urge the Government of Iraq to comply with all the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and, in particular, to authorize the resumption of inspections by the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) of all the sites and locations required by its mandate.

3. The Ministers reiterate their belief that all diplomatic efforts must be made and all possible channels exhausted in order to resolve this issue peacefully. Such efforts must include the good offices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by the Charter of the Organization.